

IN THE CLAIMS

This is a complete and current listing of the claims, marked with status identifiers in parentheses. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~the~~ quality evaluation of electronically stored, ~~in particular medical knowledge data (4), having the following steps~~ the method comprising:

— storing the knowledge data (4) are stored in a database (12),; and

— correlating quality data (20) correlated with the knowledge data are stored in the database (12), a user (28) storing at least one of storing the quality data (20) in the database (12) at least one of during and/or after access to the knowledge data (4), or and storing result data from the application of knowledge data (4) being stored in a result database (64) and correlating quality data with the result data, (20) correlated with the application of the knowledge data (4) are being automatically generated and stored in the database and, (12) — when upon the user (28) accesses the knowledge data (4), the quality data (20) are automatically being provided to the user (28).

2. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein

— the user (28) applies the knowledge data (4), and

— quality data (20) correlated with the results of the application are stored in the database (12).

3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein

— preselected quality criteria (59, 66) correlated with the knowledge data (4) are stored in the database (12).

4. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein

— an identification of the user (28) is assigned to the quality data (20) and stored in the database (12).

5. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein

— the user (28) determines quality data (20) with a time delay after application of the knowledge data (4), and
— the user (28) is automatically requested to store the quality data (20) in the database (12) ~~at predetermined times~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein

— the result database (64) is at least one of an electronic patient database ~~and/or~~ an electronic hospital information system, and
— patient outcome data are stored as result data in the result database.

7. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 6~~, wherein

— quality data (20) are determined from the result database (64) according to ~~preselected~~ quality criteria, and
— the quality data (20) are stored in the database (12).

8. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims 1, 6 or 7~~, wherein

— quality data (20) are determined from the result database (64) according to the ~~preselected~~ quality criteria with a time delay, and
— an access path to the result database (64) is assigned to the quality criterion.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein

— a result database ~~(64)~~ denoted by the access path is automatically checked ~~at predetermined times~~ for the presence of the result data assigned to the quality criteria, and
— when the result data are present, quality data are generated from them according to the quality criteria and stored in the database ~~(12)~~.

10. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein

— a quality measure ~~(60, 68)~~ is determined as quality data ~~(20)~~, and
— a determination instruction for the quality measure ~~(60, 68)~~ is stored in the database ~~(12)~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein

— the determination instruction is at least one of a formula or and an expert rule.

12. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~one of the preceding claims~~, wherein

— different users ~~(28)~~ use the same knowledge data ~~(20)~~ and quality data ~~(20)~~ assigned to the users ~~(28)~~ are determined therefrom, and
— a ranking of the success rate of the users ~~(28)~~ is calculated from the quality data ~~(20)~~.

13. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein

— comparable knowledge data ~~(4)~~ are used and quality data ~~(20)~~ assigned to the knowledge data ~~(4)~~ are determined therefrom, and

— a ranking of the quality of the knowledge data (4) is calculated from the quality data ~~(20)~~.

14. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein

— knowledge data (4) are released for use by the user ~~(28)~~ only after the user ~~(28)~~ has assigned their identification to the knowledge data ~~(4)~~ or an access path for result data from the use of the knowledge data ~~(4)~~.

15. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein

— knowledge data (4) are released for use by the user ~~(28)~~ only after the user ~~(28)~~ has paid a fee, and

— the user (28) receives a reimbursement of the fee after storing the quality data ~~(20)~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein

— the use of the knowledge data (4) is chargeable to the user ~~(28)~~, and

— the quality data (20), but not the assigned knowledge data ~~(4)~~, can be seen is freely viewable by the user ~~(28)~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein

— the date of the creation of the quality data (20) is stored in the database ~~(12)~~ together with the quality data ~~(20)~~.

18. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein

— at least one of medical treatment recommendations or advice ~~are~~ is stored as knowledge data ~~(4)~~.

19. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein

— medical guidelines are stored as knowledge data ~~(4)~~.

20. - 21. (Cancelled)

22. (New) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein
 quality criteria correlated with the knowledge data are
 stored in the database.

23. (New) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein
 quality data are determined from the result database
 according to quality criteria, and
 the quality data are stored in the database.

24. (New) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein
 quality data are determined from the result database
 according to the quality criteria with a time delay, and
 an access path to the result database is assigned to the
 quality criterion.

25. (New) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein
 quality data are determined from the result database
 according to the quality criteria with a time delay, and
 an access path to the result database is assigned to the
 quality criterion.

26. (New) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein
 quality data are determined from the result database
 according to the quality criteria with a time delay, and
 an access path to the result database is assigned to the
 quality criterion.

27. (New) The method as claimed in claim 26, wherein

a result database denoted by the access path is automatically checked for the presence of the result data assigned to the quality criteria, and

when the result data are present, quality data are generated from them according to the quality criteria and stored in the database.

28. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the knowledge data is medical knowledge data.

29. (New) A method for quality evaluation of electronically stored knowledge data the method comprising:

storing knowledge data in a database;

correlating quality data with the knowledge data stored in the database; and

automatically providing, upon the user accessing the knowledge data, the quality data to the user.

30. (New) The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the knowledge data is medical knowledge data.